AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraphs from page 1, line 10 to page 5, line 2 with the following amended paragraphs:

Tools for catching and bringing back dog dung have been available. In most, they are mainly composed of a tool for scooping or pinching dog dung on the ground and a bag for containing the dung. A portable pet dung collector disclosed in Japanese Registered Utility Model No. 3051160 includes a retaining ring supported to a hinge at the tip of a collapsible shaft for attaching a plastic film bag thereto. Such tools have disadvantages that the retaining ring must be touched by a hand and is inconvenient to carry it so as to give people repulsed feeling. In a sanitary device for removing animal droppings disclosed in USP No. 4042269 and a portable canine commode in USP No. 4555132, a cup receiver is fixed to the end of a shank extending from a grip with an inclination suitable for catching the dung and above the receiver, a lid is supported by a hinge, which can be operated to open or close the lid from the grip. A flaw of such a tool is that since the receiver is fixed in an inclination suitable for catching the dung, the dung is difficult to be discharged. As a result, the bottom of the receiver must also be openable, complicating the tool. Also, when going out while carrying the tool in one's hand in a vertical direction after catching the dung, the opening of the receiver may be ~~sideway~~ inclined, so that ~~it must be careful to close~~ great care was required in designing the lid in structure and also in using the tool. Furthermore, it is difficult to remove and clean the dung adhered on the inside of the small receiver.

Tools for picking up and carrying dog dung available up to now have disadvantages that they are generally difficult to use and are awkward looking when they are carried ~~so as to be driven away~~, such disadvantages have been driving away the potential users.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung which is excellent in picking up, housing, and discharging the dog dung as well as having good appearance ~~and not giving repulsed feeling~~ when carrying it for dog walk.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung ~~in that~~ in which a receiver can be opened in a direction easily picking up the dung by a simple operation of an operation unit so as to hold the receiver in a direction easily carrying the dung by closing a lid after picking up the dung as well as the receiver can be largely opened in a direction easily discharging the dung on a toilet by a simple operation while carrying the tool in one's hand.

It is still another object of the present invention to provide a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung capable of pushing out and discharging the dung within a receiver by a simple operation while carrying the tool in one's hand.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung ~~in that~~ to which the dung is difficult to adhere and remain on insides of a receiver and a lid.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung ~~in that~~ in which rain-water is difficult to infiltrate a receiver as well as odor of the dog dung cannot leak out.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung ~~in that~~ in which the inside and the outside of a receiver can be easily cleaned ~~when washing~~ by washing them with water so as to maintain the tool clean and glossy, and the tool is compact with a large holding capacity.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung which is easily carried during dog walking and has a grip and an operation unit which are easily operated in picking up and discharging the dung.

Disclosure of Invention

The present invention provides a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung including a shank having a shaft longitudinally linearly extending from a grip and at least one swinging support attached to the end of the shaft so as to have a swinging axial line in a direction intersecting with the shaft; a receiver having an opening, which opens substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line, and a concave inner wall, the receiver being supported swingably about the swinging axial line by fitting at least one support disposed in the vicinity of the opening to the swinging support; a lid having fringing means disposed substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line for closely covering the opening and a cover for covering the inside of the fringing means, the lid being supported swingably in a direction opposing the receiver by fitting at least one support disposed in the vicinity of its peripheral edge to the swinging support; a rear link with its lower end rotatably connected ~~rotatably back and forth~~ to a boss provided at part of an outer wall of the receiver; a front link with its lower end rotatably connected ~~rotatably~~

~~back and forth~~ to a boss provided at part of an outer wall of the lid; and operating rod means having[[,]] a link holder retained to the shaft movably in the vertical direction for holding ~~the upper ends of~~ the rear link and the front link ~~rotatably back and forth, and an operating unit disposed at its upper side~~ by rotatably connecting the upper ends of the links to the link holder.

Please replace the paragraph from page 5, line 14 to page 6, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

Also, a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung according to the present invention includes a shank having a shaft longitudinally linearly extending from a grip and a fork attached to the end of the shaft so as to linearly extend, forked ends of the fork laterally separating from each other, and to have swinging supports respectively attached to the forked ends along a swinging axial line in a direction intersecting the end portion of the shaft; a receiver having an opening, which opens substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line, and an inner wall deeply ~~fallen~~ concave from the opening, the receiver being supported swingably about the swinging axial line by fitting supports disposed on both sides of the opening to the swinging supports inside the fork, respectively; a lid having fringing means disposed substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line for closely covering the inside of the opening and a cover for covering the inside of the fringing means, the lid being supported swingably in a direction opposing the receiver by fitting supports disposed on both sides of its peripheral [[edge]] to the both swinging supports, respectively, in the inside of the receiver; a rear link with its lower end

rotatably connected ~~rotatably back and forth~~ to a boss provided at part of an outer wall of the receiver; a front link with its lower end rotatably connected ~~rotatably back and forth~~ to a boss provided at part of an outer wall of the lid; and operating rod means having a link holder retained to the shaft movably in the vertical direction for holding the rear link and the front link ~~rotatably back and forth~~ by rotatably connecting the upper ends of the links to the link holder~~; and operating rod means having an operating unit disposed at its upper end~~.

Please replace the paragraph from page 7, line 5 to line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

In the receiver and the lid, [[by]] for the below-mentioned reason, preferably, the receiver includes an inner wall ~~fallen~~ concave in a shape of a semi-revolution solid rotated about the swinging axial line and an opening, which flatly opens substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line, the receiver being supported swingably about the swinging axial line by fitting supports disposed on the both sides of the opening to both the swinging supports of the fork; and the lid includes the fringing means for closely covering the inside of the opening and a cover for covering the inside of the fringing means, the lid being supported swingably about the swinging axial line in a direction opposing the receiver by fitting the supports disposed on both sides of the fringing means to the both swinging supports in the inside of the receiver, respectively.

Please replace the paragraphs from page 8, line 5 to page 9, line 15 with the following amended paragraphs:

In particular, more preferably, the receiver includes an inner wall ~~fallen~~ concave in a hemispherical shape rotated about the swinging axial line and an opening, which flatly opens substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line, the receiver being supported swingably about the swinging axial line by fitting supports disposed on the both sides of the opening to both the swinging supports, respectively, inside the fork; and the lid includes fringing means for closely covering the inside of the opening and a cover for covering the inside of the fringing means by approaching the inner wall of the receiver so as to protrude in a hemispherical shape, the lid being supported swingably about the swinging axial line in a direction opposing the receiver by fitting the supports disposed on both sides of the fringing means to the both swinging supports in the inside of the receiver, respectively; so that the entire of the receiver and the lid has a substantially ~~hemispherical~~ spherical shape when the lid is held in a closed position.

As for the receiver and the lid, a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung also includes a receiver having an opening, which opens substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line, and an inner wall deeply ~~fallen~~ concave from the opening, the receiver being supported swingably about the swinging axial line by fitting supports disposed on both sides of the opening to the swinging supports inside the fork, respectively; and a lid having fringing means disposed substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line for closely covering the outside of the opening and a cover for covering the inside of the fringing means, the lid being supported

swingably in a direction opposing the receiver by fitting supports disposed on both sides of its peripheral [[edge]] to the both swinging supports, respectively, in the outside of the receiver. Then, in the same way as described above, the opening and shutting operation of the receiver and the lid can be performed by the operating rod means via the rear link and the front link.

Please replace the paragraph from page 16, line 9 to page 17, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to Figs. 1 to 7, a shank 1 includes a long shaft 2 extending from a ~~crosswise~~ grip 1' at the upper end of the shank 1 in a T-shape and a fork 5 arranged at the end of the shaft 2 and having two arms extending longitudinally while being sideward spaced from each other. At ends of the two arms, swinging supports 4 and 4' are provided, each having an inward extending pin. The straight line connecting the swinging supports 4 and 4' is a swinging axial line 3 being perpendicular to the shaft 2. Inside the fork 5, a receiver 8 is attached. The receiver 8 includes an opening 6 opening flatly and a ~~fallen~~ concave inner wall 7, and is swingably supported around the swinging axial line 3 by fitting holding parts formed on both sides of the opening 6 into the swinging supports 4 and 4', respectively. Inside the receiver 8, a lid 11 is attached. The lid 11 includes flat fringing means 9 for closely covering the opening 6 and a cover portion 10 covering the inside the fringing means 9, and is supported swingably in an opposing direction to the receiver 8 by fitting holding parts formed on both sides of a periphery of the lid 11 into the swinging supports 4 and 4' in the internal side of the receiver 8, respectively. At the rear edge of

the receiver 8, a boss 27 is formed for a connection pin, and the lower end of a rear link 12 is crosswise rotatably connected to the boss 27 via a pin 28.

Please replace the paragraph from page 21, line 11 to page 22, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

Furthermore, according to the embodiment, an elastic notch 24 is provided which is supported by a leaf spring, of which one end is fixed to an upper inner wall of the shaft 2, for protruding toward the inner wall of the rod 16' of the operating rod means 16 by the force of the spring. On the other hand, at the corresponding position of the wall of the rod 16', a notch groove 25 is formed. The elastic notch 24 is to be fitted into the notch groove 25 within the movable range of the operating rod means 16 at positions in that the receiver 8 and the front of the lid 11 are opened in a direction catching the dung. This fitting is to be resistance holding [[means]] device 26 for coming off the operation lever 21 by applying a force more than a predetermined value to the operation lever 21 during movement operation. Thereby, when the operation lever 21 is moved to the position M where is a catching position of the receiver 8 and the lid 11, a resistance is applied to the movement operation by the fitting. Although this resistance force is sufficient for the holding force during catching operation, if necessary, as shown in Fig. 3, the stop pin 33 may also be fitted into the intermediate stop hole 35 by pushing the stop lever 23 so as to maintain the receiver 8 and the lid 11 immovable. Thereby, the catching operation may be more easily performed.

Please replace the paragraph from page 25, line 22 to page 26, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

When the link holder 14d is located at the position [[14d"]] 14d' so as to hold the lid at the closed position, the entire of the receiver covered with the lid has a shape like a sphere, so that there is provided a tool for picking up and carrying dog dung which is compact and easily cleaned in both the inside and outside as well as has a large capacity with a large depth.

Please replace the paragraph from page 27, line 22 to page 29, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 14 to 16 further show another embodiment of the present invention, in which there is provided a swinging support composed of one pin and arranged at the front end of the shaft 2f of the shank 1f. The swinging support 4f includes a swinging axial line along a direction intersecting the shaft 2f of the shank 1f at the right angle. In front of the swinging support 4f, there is provided the bowl-like receiver 8f having the flat opening 6f, which opens substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line, and the receiver 8f is supported swingably about the swinging axial line by fitting a boss formed on a rear side in the vicinity of the [[rear]] opening 6f of the receiver 8f to the swinging support 4f. Above the receiver 8f, there is provided the lid 11f having the fringing means 9f arranged substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line for covering the opening 6f by closely approaching the opening 6f, the cover portion 10f arranged inside, and a rear boss formed in the vicinity of the peripheral edge and fitted to the

swinging support 4f. In the fringing means 9f, a ring mounting portion is formed in the periphery of the lid, and to the ring mounting portion, the seal ring 20f is fitted so as to hermetically adhere to the inside of the opening 6f. In the lower rear of the receiver 8f, the boss 27f for a connection pin is formed, so that the lower end of the rear link 12f is connected to the boss 27f via the pin 28f rotatably in back and forth directions. On the other hand, the boss 29f for a connection pin is formed substantially at the center of the lid 11f, so that the lower end of the front link 13f is connected to the boss 29f via the pin 30f rotatably in back and forth directions. To the shaft 2f, the operating rod means 16f of the rod 16f' made of a pipe is fitted slidably in the vertical direction. In the lower portion of the operating rod means 16f, the link holder 14f is fixed for holding the upper ends of the rear link 12f and the front link 13f via the pin 31f and the pin 32f, respectively, rotatably in back and forth directions. In the upper portion of the operating rod means 16f, the operation unit 15f having the operation lever 21f rearward extending so as to intersect the shaft 2f is fixed. Since the operation unit 15f is the same as that of the first embodiment, its description is omitted.

Please replace the paragraph from page 30, line 11 to page 31, line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 17 and 18 further show another embodiment of the present invention, in which two above and below swinging supports 4g and 4g' are provided at the front end of the shaft 2g of the shank 1g. The swinging supports 4g and 4g' are in parallel with each other and have a swinging axial line along a perpendicular direction to the shaft 2g. In front of the swinging support 4g,

there is the cup-like receiver 8g with the flat opening [[6f]] 6g, which opens substantially in parallel with the swinging axial line. The receiver 8g is supported swingably about the swinging axial line by fitting a boss formed at the rear of the receiver 8g in the vicinity of the opening 6g to the swinging support 4g. In front of the swinging support 4g', there is the lid 11g including the fringing means 9g for covering the opening 6g by closely approaching the opening 6g approximately in parallel with the swinging axial line and the cover portion 10g for the inside. At the approximate center of the lid 11g, the boss 29g of the connection pin is formed, and the front end of a swinging link 50 extending back and forth is connected to the boss 29g via the pin 30g. The rear end of the swinging link 50 is fitted to the swinging support 4g', and is supported swingably in a direction opposing the receiver 8g. In the lower rear of the receiver 8g, the boss 27g for the connection pin is formed, and the lower end of the rear link 12g is connected to the boss 27g via the pin 28g rotatably in back and forth directions. On the other hand, the boss 29g of the lid 11g is connected to the lower end of the front link 13g via the pin 30g rotatably in back and forth directions. To the shaft 2g, the operating rod means 16g of the rod made of a pipe is fitted slidably in the vertical direction. At the lower end of the operating rod means 16g, the link holder 14g is fixed for connecting the upper ends of the rear link 12g and the front link 13g via the pin 31g and the pin 32g, respectively, rotatably in back and forth directions. On the other hand, at the upper end of the operating rod means 16g, the operation unit 15g having the operation lever 21g extending back and forth directions intersecting the shaft [[2f]] 2g is fixed. The detail of the operation unit 15g will be described in the following embodiment, so that the description herein is omitted.

Please replace the paragraph from page 33, line 6 to page 34, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

The upper stop lever 41h is held to the operation lever 21h by the swinging holding means of the pin 40h, and includes the lever portion 42h swinging about the pin 40h in the vertical direction and a stop projection [[47]] 45 swinging in back and forth directions in the root side. The lower lever portion 41h' is held to the operation lever 21h by the swinging holding means symmetrically with the upper stop lever 41h. On the root side of the stop lever 41h', a friction shoe 46 is provided for pushing the front side of the shaft 2h. In the opposing portion between the stop lever 41h and the stop lever 41h' on the root side, there is provided the swinging connection unit 38h like gears meshing with each other. Then, when one of the stop lever 41h and the stop lever 41h' swings, the other swings in the opposite direction. Between the lever portions 42h and 42h' of both the stop levers 41h and 41h', the opening spring 39h is fitted for separating the lever portion 42h from the lever portion 42h'. Thus, when the operating rod means 16h moves to a predetermined position, the stop projection [[47]] 45 of the upper stop lever 41h is fitted into the stop hole 47 so that rear ends of both the lever portions 42h and 42h' are largely exposed from the operation lever 21h. Then, the operating rod means 16h is held without vertical movement. The stop projection [[47]] 45 functions to strongly stop the vertical movement of the operating rod means 16h, that is, the movement to open the lid, and the friction shoe 46 suppresses vibrations of the lid and the links by a frictional force to the surface of the shaft 2h.